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Arizona Youth Embark in

SERVICE



Photo by Evonne Davis

Youth and leaders of the Montecito Ward in the Mountain View Stake show off their Secret Service shirts, which they were given to kick off the secret and not-so-secret service they will perform as they put into practice this year's youth theme: *"O ye that embark in the service of God ..."*



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Photo by Evonne Davis

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Embark in the Service of God

Young Men and Young Women across Arizona are joining with other youth around the world as they embark in concentrated efforts to make service to God a priority this year.

In opening exercises, service projects, youth conferences and various activities, the youth are applying the 2015 Mutual theme—"O ye that em-

bark in the service of God, see that ye serve him with all your heart, might, mind and strength, that ye may stand blameless before God at the last day."

With the announcement of this year's theme, the Church also provided instructions that it should be "used to guide youth in Christlike service in their homes, the temple, the Church, and

the community."

From cleaning up a neighbor's yard, working at food shelters, making and delivering care packages, working on family history, at-

tending the temple to perform baptisms and more, Arizona youth are accepting the challenge and finding countless ways to serve.

The Montecito Ward of the Mountain View Stake kicked off the theme in January during the third Sunday

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Photo by Adele Heslington

As part of their youth conference, youth of the Queen Creek East Stake researched and prepared family names for temple work, then performed the proxy baptisms.



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Embark In the Service
Continued from pg. 3

block. Youth and their leaders shared talks about the meaning of true service and issued the challenge to find a need and fill it. Ward Young Women president, Jenet Knight, says, "We reminded them that when they see a need but don't know what to do, just to do something. Anything."

The Young Men and Women were given black t-shirts with white lettering that reads SECRET SERVICE. When there is a need for service, the youth receive a text message telling them where to be and what supplies to bring.

Sister Knight sent a text about 9 a.m. one Friday morning letting the youth know they were needed at 4 p.m. that same day to pick oranges and clean up the grounds at the local elementary school.

She says, "I didn't think anyone would come with such late notice on a Friday afternoon, but they came. I was shocked. Some wore their black shirts, and some weren't able to get home to change, but they came. In fact, there were 26 youth and 10 leaders there that day."

A teacher's quorum member, John Knight, says, "Now that we are serving more, I feel like I have a better understanding of what it really means that when we are serving others, we are doing what Christ would be doing. It

has changed my perspective."

The Montecito Ward youth have done projects on the inside and outside of neighbors' homes and in April worked at the Church cannery. For Queen Creek East Stake, temple service was the focus of their annual youth conference held in February.

"We invited the youth to be engaged in their own family history work and bring a name of someone needing temple work to the conference," says Melanie Scott, stake Young Women's president. "As part of our weekend, we drove to a church building almost exactly halfway between our stake building and the Gilbert Temple. The analogy was that going to the temple is only half the work. Bringing a name and doing that work for our ancestors is the other half."

Tyler Judkins, a priest in the Creekside Ward, adds, "I was looking for a name and found an entire family. It really hit me that this family was real and they needed me to get this work done for them."

On Saturday morning, the youth walked to the Gilbert Temple. Signs they created to represent their ancestors were placed along the last quarter mile. The youth were asked to walk in silence thinking about their ancestors whose names they had chosen to research.

"I remember seeing all those names on our walk and the reality hit me that



Photo by John Power, Biltmore Photo

Youth across Arizona, including (standing l to r) Rylee Rigby, 13 and Rigdon Waite, 17, both of the Higley Stake and Jane Maycock 16, of San Tan Stake and (kneeling l to r) Zachary McNeil, 17, of the San Tan Stake; and Emily Christensen, 16, Higley Stake, are finding many ways to put this year's youth theme into practice as they demonstrate their love for God and willingness to serve Him by serving others around them.

they are my family. I am literally doing this work for my brothers and sisters in the gospel," recalls Emily John, a Laurel in the Sierra Ranch Ward.

Jodi Davis, Young Women's president in the Manatee Ward of the Glendale Stake, says in an area where there aren't as many members of the Church, "Our youth are embarking in service to God in their own way."

She says their ward covers a large area and their youth attend three differ-

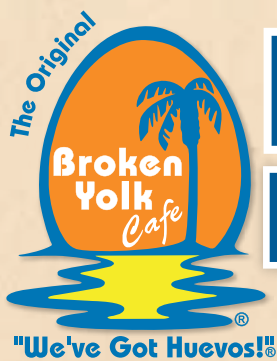
ent schools.

"Many of our youth come alone, without parents. Yet, they are so strong," Sister Davis says. "We have youth who are there every week, even though they have little support from home."

"They want to be in church, or they wouldn't be there," she adds.

Young Women in the Copperwood Ward, also in the Glendale Stake, ap-

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Embark In the Service
Continued from pg. 4

plied the 2015 theme as part of their New Beginnings program. The girls were asked to bring items to be donated to the child crisis center. Then, says Young Women's president, Linda Bennett, "We had some talks about how important service is, and how 'embark' means to do it now." They ended the evening with the Young Women performing other service right then, including tying quilts for the crisis center and writing letters to individuals serving in the military.

The Sierra Ward in Glendale North Stake, focuses on this year's theme by dedicating each month's combined activity to service. The ward's Beehive class spent a mutual night sewing and stuffing 40 teddy bears for a women's shelter. Ward youth gathered one Saturday to help a Scout with his Eagle project, doing general park maintenance and digging holes for signs.

Maricopa North Stake combined their Young Women's Evening of

Excellence and Young Womanhood Recognition, with each young woman creating a poster to show a value they love. Those girls receiving their recognition award spoke about "How Personal Progress helps you embark on the journey of life."

In May, the stake will host a three-day youth conference with the theme, "Embarking on the Journey of the Book of Mormon." The event was launched in January, when the youth were challenged to read the Book of Mormon before May. The conference will include games and a presentation by stake leaders, as well as enactments of various stories from the Book of Mormon by each of the wards.

Shye Peterson, of the Mesa 5th Ward and a counselor in the Maricopa North Young Women's presidency, says, "I believe so strongly in the youth of the Church. They're amazing."

She says this year's theme is par-

ticularly powerful.

"If youth will follow this scripture, there's no cap to what they can do. The



Photo by Wendy Collins

As part of their New Beginnings program, Young Women in the Copperwood Ward, Glendale Stake, applied the idea that to embark in service means to "do it now," so, that night the girls, including (l to r) Brittany Osmond, Rylee Swartout, Madeline Osmond and Julia Hansen tied fleece blankets for the children's crisis nursery and wrote letters of appreciation to the military.

adversary tells them in every way that they can't win, but the only thing that ever comes out of his mouth is a lie."

She hopes youth across Arizona will remember that by applying this year's theme, "You can win. It is possible to win. It is achievable. If you do the work, exercise faith and take action, you can win. You can change lives, including your own. You can change families, even generations."

The Church's website, www.youth.lds.org, offers suggestions for youth, leaders and parents for applying the theme to Sunday lessons and to Duty to God and Personal Progress activities. The site also has videos, articles and downloadable music and graphics that can be used to enhance mutual activities and lessons. There is also a link for youth to share their experiences in applying the theme, or youth can use the hashtag #embark on Facebook, Twitter and other social media.

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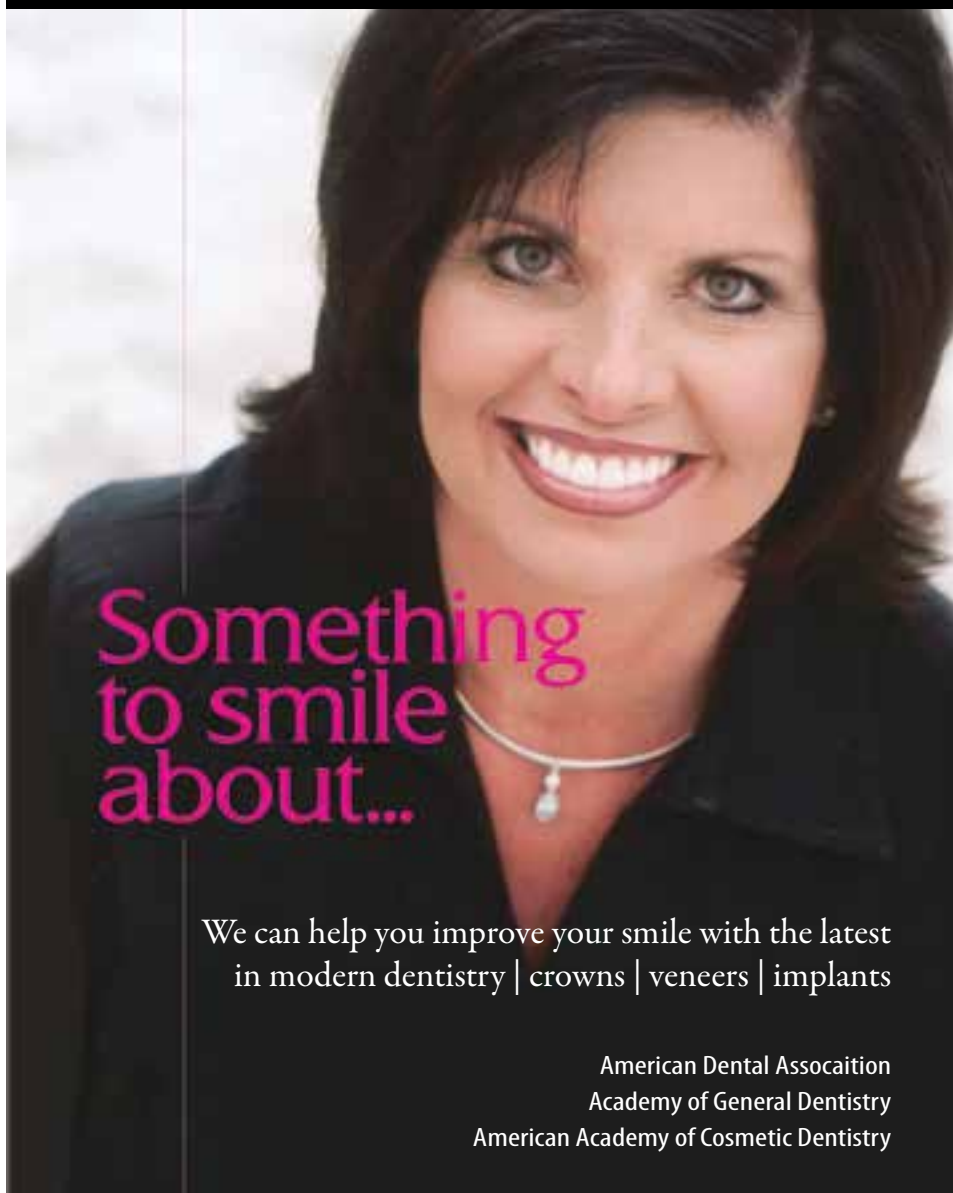


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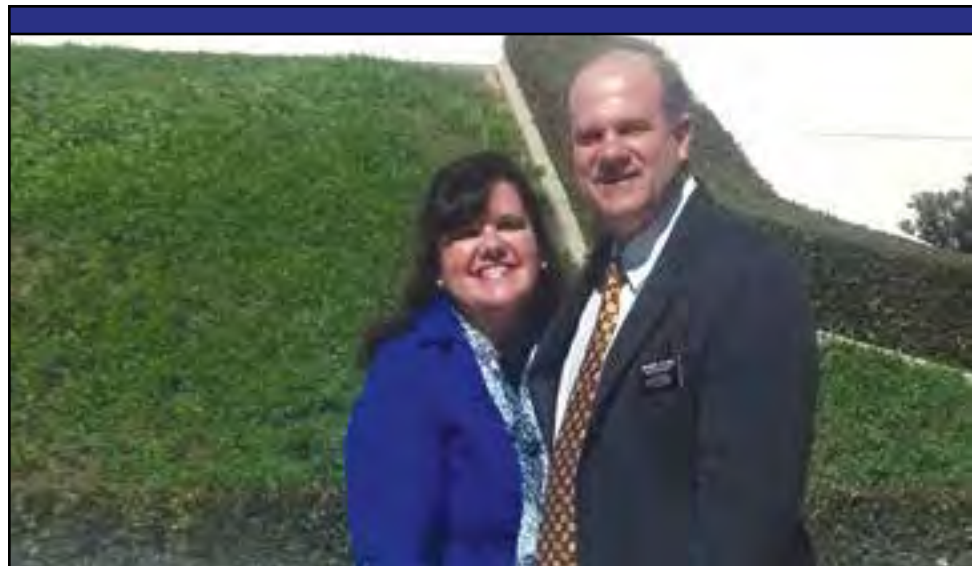


Photo courtesy Holly Tillemann

Called as a new Area Seventy in April General Conference, Karl M. Tillemann, shown here with his wife Holly, experienced miraculous healing after a serious injury sustained while he was serving as a mission president in 2012.

Karl M. Tillemann *called as* **New Area Seventy**

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

During the Saturday afternoon session of April General Conference, with President Dieter F. Uchtdorf as mouthpiece, the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints announced

53 new Area Seventies, including Karl M. Tillemann, 54, of Phoenix.

Elder Tillemann will replace Mesa-native Jim Lorezo Wright, 57, who has been called as mission president of the

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California Santa Rosa Mission, where he will serve with his wife, Christina. The Wrights are members of the Mesa 20th Ward, Mesa Arizona Maricopa North Stake. Prior to serving as an Area Seventy, Elder Wright was a stake president, bishop, high councilor and stake Young Men president. He served a fulltime mission to the Argentina Rosario Mission and later as a ward missionary.

The new Area Seventy and his wife, Holly Benson Walker Tilleman, served together in the Vancouver British Columbia Mission, where he was the mission president.

Members of the Mountain Park Ward, Tempe Arizona West Stake, they were several months into their mission, when, in 2012, Elder Tilleman suffered a serious injury that paralyzed him from the neck down.

President Tilleman had asked if he could pet an investigator's dog, a Bullmastiff, which was on a leash. The dog attacked and got both of President Tilleman's hands in its mouth.

"Miraculously, he got his hands free," Sister Tilleman says. They washed the wounds and were heading to the hospital when "he passed out from the shock and loss of blood and fell extremely hard against a concrete

wall," she says.

The medical staff, told them he had "central spinal syndrome" and may never walk again.

Missionaries in British Colombia, members of the Tillemans' home stake in Arizona, and family and friends across North and South America prayed and fasted for him.

"President Tilleman received a priesthood blessing that promised a full recovery at an accelerated rate," adds Sister Tilleman. "He should have been in the hospital for two to three months and in the rehabilitation facility approximately nine months in order to re-learn how to move, walk and care for himself."

Yet, he was hospitalized for only 17 days.

The healing started immediately, with the paralysis leaving bit by bit.

Elder Tilleman, who, prior to his mission, had served as stake president, bishop, bishopric counselor, Young Men president and high priest group leader, decided early on he wouldn't complain and he would do what he could to continue the work, even though his spinal injuries were excruciating.

As a former two-time Olympian, representing Canada in basketball in the Los Angeles and Seoul Korea Olympics, and having played basketball for the University of Calgary before that, he is familiar with hard work

and dedication.

This time, though, he seemed to have added incentive. Even while in the hospital, he had missionaries bring files to him and started making phone calls for the mission.

Daily he worked out, did missionary work, physical therapy and then took an evening walk. At one point, Sister Tilleman said, "You are the most

amazing man ever," President Tilleman quickly opposed, saying, "No, this is not about me. The Lord has been so kind to us."

Sister Tilleman says, through it all, he showed "incredible patience" and "a submission to God's will."

"He knows it is truth what we read in the scriptures ... all things shall be for our experience and good," she says.

Ezra Taft Benson's Grand-Daughter to Speak About Him at May AZ Management Society Meeting

As part of the Arizona Management Society's presentations about "Extraordinary Lives" that support the society's purpose of fostering moral and ethical leaders, Heather Walker Sandstrom, granddaughter of Flora and Ezra Taft Benson, will share personal insights into the lives of her grandparents at the society's May meeting. Heather is currently a counselor in the stake Relief Society presidency for the Mesa East YSA Stake, where her husband, Paul, serves as Stake President and she plays the organ in the Mesa Temple each

week.

Heather will discuss how the 13th President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and his wife fulfilled their important Church assignments while also playing a role in our country's history at what has been referred to as "no ordinary time." The meeting will be May 7 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the East Valley Institute of Technology, 1601 W. Main Street in Mesa. To learn more or to inquire about registering for the meeting, email Claudia Walters at steveandclaudiawalters@gmail.com or call 480-898-8743.



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Tim believes that the right car can make a huge difference in a customer's life. "A car is essential to daily life and something most of us couldn't live without. I love talking to customers about their wants for a car and then helping them find the car that is right for their personal situation, all while staying within their budget."

Recently, Tim opened **Red Mountain Motors**, located at 1055 W. Broadway Road in **Mesa**. The used car lot offers guaranteed credit approval, which gives Tim and his staff the opportunity to help more people find a car they can afford that also meets their needs.

"We know that bad things happen to good people," Tim said. The staff at Red Mountain have the ability to help anyone get approved for a car loan including those who have experienced bankruptcy, divorce, repossessions and late payments. First time car buyers are welcome, too.

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Tim Trendler of Red Mountain Motors is on a mission to give his customers the best car buying experience.

RED NOTE FOUNDATION

Offers Opportunities to Share in a Legacy of Music, Service & Love

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The story of Kristen Hooker's life is filled with music, celebration, and service and with family, friends and fun. It contains chapters laced with giddiness; illustrated with vivid touches of her favorite color, red; orchestrated to the tunes of the bassoon that she played so beautifully; and punctuated with poignant demonstrations of devotion. It's rich and interesting and inspiring.

Still, for all who knew her well—and even for those who only briefly met her—it all ended much too soon.

Kristen died in a motorcycle accident July 10, 2004, just eight days after her 20th birthday.

Yet, today, in many ways, Kristen's music lives on. Her hopes and dreams

and her influence on others are more alive, bigger and more impactful than ever.

Much of that influence is the result of the Red Note Foundation, an organization founded by her parents, Ken and Ramona Hooker, members of the Gilbert 9th Ward, Gilbert Val Vista Stake, and sister, Shelbey, who shared a special closeness with Kristen.

The website at www.RedNoteFoundation.org, states, "Red Note Foundation was formed to continue what Kristen started: Serving her fellow man, beautifying the world with music, and honoring her God through service, and self-improvement."

"We wanted to put something together that honored her," Ken says.



Photo by Gwendolyn Grace Photography

After Kristen Hooker died in a motorcycle accident, her family created the Red Note Foundation as a way to continue her love for music and her interest in helping others. Shown at the Red Note Foundation benefit concert are (l to r) Taylor Butterfield, who is married to Shelbey, Kristen's sister, and Kristen's parents, Ramona and Ken Hooker.

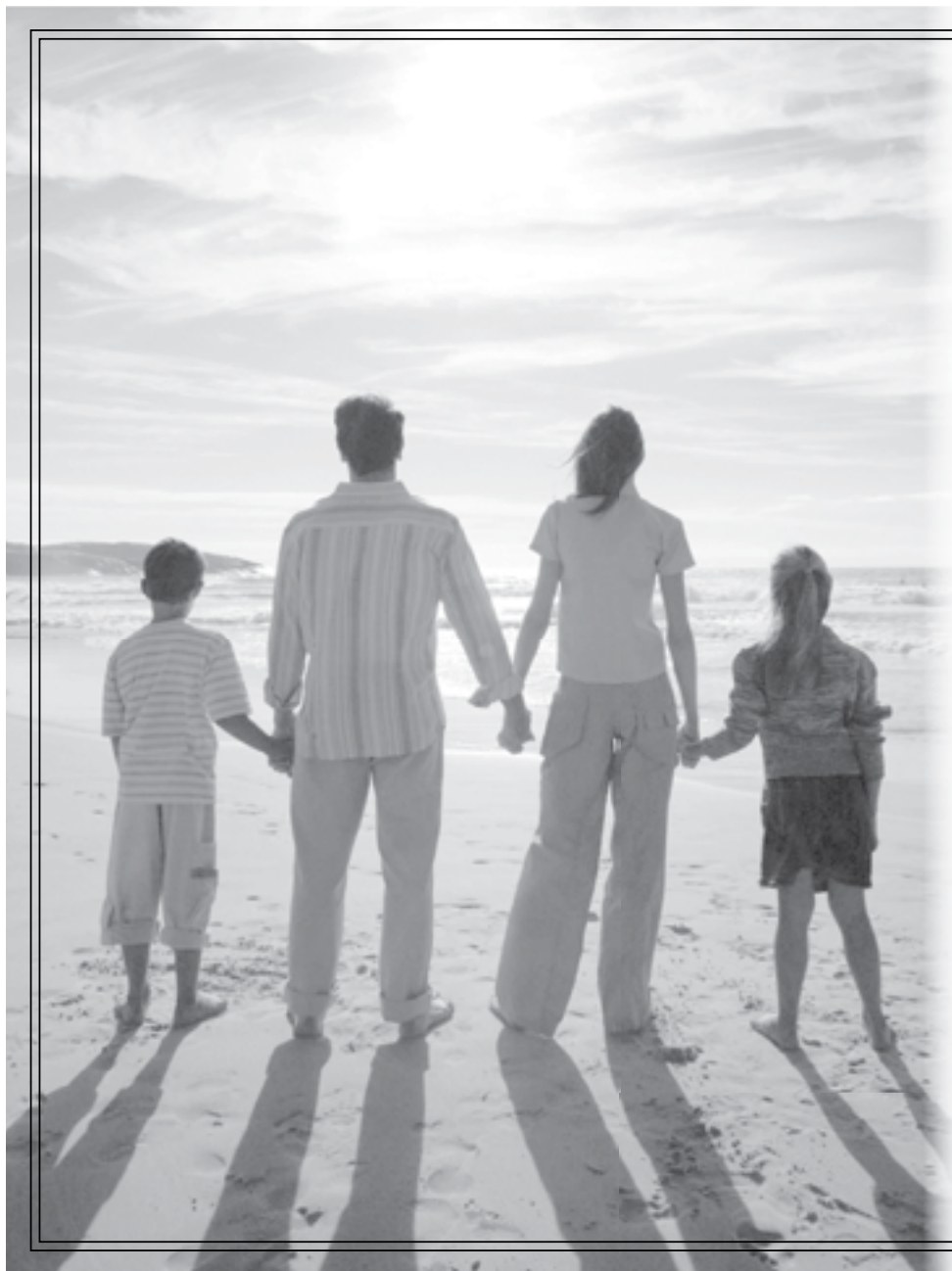
"She had the ability to help others and she used music as the primary way to connect with others on a soul-to-soul level."

Kristen began her music education playing the flute in the Pioneer Elementary School band. In the eighth grade, she tried the bassoon. "Kristen liked anything that was different and unique," Ken said.

She readily took to this new instru-

ment, and began amassing awards and recognition. Among many other honors Kristen earned, she was one of 76 musicians from across the nation selected to participate in the National Wind Ensemble and to play the bassoon at Carnegie Hall; she played for three years with the Phoenix Symphony Guild Youth Orchestra; was a member of the

Continued on pg. 9



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Arizona Mormon Choir and Orchestra; and earned a full-ride scholarship to the University of Arizona.

She also used her music to lift and to serve others. She played at numerous church meetings and community functions, often accompanied by her father; and she went to elementary schools to teach young people about the bassoon, and once volunteered at Rosie's House, a music academy for children in inner-city Phoenix.

Music was also a profoundly spiritual experience for Kristen. Music increased her faith and she felt she was worshipping God by playing well.

"Kristen's motivation in life and Kristen's love for music is something we just can't lose," Shelby said. "Red Note Foundation started as a healing process for us, but we soon realized it was something more."

The "more" was demonstrated as Red Note Foundation hosted its first fundraising event, a Christmas concert at the Mesa Arts Center, complete with an orchestra and choir. "So many of those who participated knew and loved Kristen—and had played with her at Highland High School and elsewhere—and were happy with the opportunity to remember her in this way," Ken says.

The vision for Red Note Foundation

has continued to expand so, in addition to providing scholarships for musicians, the foundation looks to take what they to do the next level.

"There are so many organizations out there that do a wonderful job, we want to support and collaborate with others to further music education in whatever ways we can," Ken says.

Last year, the Christmas concert not only raised scholarship money, they were able to donate the first of three bassoons to Rosie's House.

In their continuing efforts to increase their influence and service, Red Note Foundation is looking to expand its team of volunteers, including filling a number of positions that are listed on the website. Later this summer, they also will be looking for musicians and choir members for their November 30 concert.

To learn more about Kristen and about the Red Note Foundation, including how to participate, how to donate, or how to get ongoing updates, visit www.rednotefoundation.org.

"I always viewed Kristen as having a plan, of moving forward with a plan," said Ken. "For me, Red Note Foundation is a way to honor her and to continue her plan."

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Young Single Adults Gather in Regional Fireside to Learn about the **IMPORTANCE of COVENANTS**

By Stacy Johnson
The Beehive

The Interstake Center was full to capacity on Sunday night March 30 as more than 1,800 young single adults from five stakes gathered to listen to Area Authority Jim Wright and his wife, Christina, speaking of the importance of covenants and ordinances.

The Wrights' young single adult children, Bethany and Jack, both members of the First Ward, Mesa YSA West

Stake, spoke as well. Bethany bore witness, "When we keep our covenants, we are reminded of God's love for us." Jack affirmed, "We can maintain a happy life by keeping our covenants."

Cade Alexander, of Mountain View Ward, Mesa YSA East Stake, appreciated the message from Bethany's talk. Cade referred to an analogy she used of life being a wrestling match where someone in the 200-pound weight



Photo courtesy James L. Wright

Area Authority James L. Wright and his wife, Christina, along with their two young single adult children, Bethany and Jack, shared remarks about covenants at a recent Regional Young Single Adult Fireside.

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class wouldn't go against someone weighing 350 pounds, saying, "God never gives us a challenge outside our weight class."

Sister Wright's words built upon her children's by focusing on the reasons for making and keeping sacred covenants, including protection from the adversary, to show love to Heavenly Father and because they are credentials for admittance into the Lord's kingdom.

Sister Wright shared her love of Dots candy and how she frequently shares the green, yellow, and orange ones, "... but you have to be pretty special for me to share my pink and red ones." Just like full obedience to the Lord requires heart and will, we must "offer Him our pink and red Dots," she said.

Elder Wright discussed ways the young single adults could prepare themselves to make important life decisions regarding mission service, education, employment and family. He encouraged them, among other things, to remember to view this life through the lens of the Plan of Happiness and to know God and love Him.

Elder Wright shared many scriptures to show the direct relation between keeping the commandments and being happy. Elder Wright reminded them, "The temple is a place to make and keep covenants and rekindle our earthly perspective."

He instructed, "Do all you can to be converted to the gospel. Being converted is to change your heart to the will of God."

Marie Thorsen, of Lehi Ward, Mesa YSA West Stake, adds, "I really enjoyed Brother and Sister Wright's talks on covenant keeping. Not only did they stress the importance of

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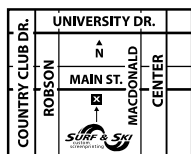


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Time to Blossom

Goes Viral & Adds
an Overnight Option to
This Year's Conference

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

In the five years since the first of their annual five-day summer conferences for girls ages 11 to 16 was held in Mesa, Time to Blossom has grown and expanded in amazing ways.

The conference itself offers essentially a “who’s who” of popular speakers for Latter-day Saint youth—with returning favorites like John Bytheway, Hank Smith, Emmy Julie Townsend and Time to Blossom cofounders, Debbie Forrest Dayton and Carla Jorgensen. LDS Blogger, YouTuber and speaker, Al Carraway will join the lineup this year. Sometimes called “The Tattooed Mormon,” her passion it is to tell everyone that the gospel is the greatest thing we could ever be a part of.

The conference also features performances from top entertainers, like pianist Clyde Bawden and comedian Jef Rawls, a service project, comedy show, craft projects, dance party and more.

Sisters Dayton and Jorgensen

started Time to Blossom as a way to “help young women and young adults become confident, strong and happy individuals. We do this by educating, motivating and inspiring them to become their best.”

Karie Babbitt, says, “Time to Blossom was truly an answer to my prayers. My daughter is changed because of her experience. Time to Blossom is a wonderfully inspired, amazing program.”

JoAnn Kelm agrees, saying, “Time to Blossom has taught my daughters how to be more positive even when the weight of the world has got them down.”

As Time to Blossom has grown and touched hundreds of girls’ lives, the program has also caught the attention of local and general Church leaders. All six living past General Young Women Presidents—Elaine Dalton, Susan Tanner, Ardeth Kapp, Janette Beckham, Margaret Nadauld and Florence Jacobson—are now members of the Time to



Photo courtesy Time to Blossom

Girls ages 11 to 16 find many opportunities to “bloom” as they gain confidence, learn about their own unique qualities and participate in interactive workshops and service projects as part of the annual Time to Blossom conference in Mesa.

Blossom Advisory Board.

Sister Kapp says, “As an Advisory Board member and speaker, I have experienced this life-changing program first hand. ... Young women are taught how to recognize their individual worth and others’ gifts, serve those around

them, and stand as a witness of Christ. ... They leave better prepared to live the gospel, reach their potential and live their divine mission.”

Recently, Time to Blossom has added a blog and expanded its social

Continued on pg. 13

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Book of Mormon RETURNED to Missionary's Family Sixty Years Later

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

More than 60 years and 5,000 miles later, a vintage Book of Mormon has been returned to the family of the missionary who took it to England.

Inside it reads "copyright 1948 by George Albert Smith" along with the handwritten name, Elder Lorin Lamar Jones, and an address on LeSueur Street in Mesa.

The book was recently returned to Lamar's son, Lorin Jones, after first making its way back to Lamar's two living siblings. Members of Udall Ward, Mesa Stake, Maurice (Maury), with his wife, Minda, still live at that LeSueur address, and Willard LeRoss, and his wife, Mabel, live nearby.

Lamar was the youngest of nine children of Willard and Edna Jones. "He left for his mission from right here, but it was the 5th Ward then," Maury explains.

Church service and sacrifice are part of their legacy. Their great grandfather, James Miller Jones, joined the Church in Detroit, Michigan, in the early days after the Restoration. When James' father forbade him to mention Mormonism, he went to Palmyra, New York,

to be with other Church members. He later helped bury the martyred prophet Joseph Smith and migrated west with the Saints.

Their father continued that dedicated service. A farmer with four daughters, he was serving as the first bishop in Virden, New Mexico, when called to a Spanish-speaking mission in Texas.

"In those days, they would call married men on missions," Maury says.

"They didn't even release him as bishop," LeRoss adds. "His counselors took care of things until he returned."

Willard, knowing boys could help on the farm, considered it a great blessing "after the trial of faith," when his five sons were born in fairly quick succession after his mission.

When Willard turned 60, he sold the farm to LeRoss and moved to Mesa where he and Edna could spend their remaining years doing temple work.

"He said as long as he had a heartbeat, he would work in the temple," Maury says.

Two of the Jones girls served missions and, although it meant juggling missionary and military service, all five boys served. All five later served as



Photo by Cecily Markland

A Book of Mormon, left in England more than 60 years by Lamar Jones, a missionary from Mesa, was recently returned to his two living siblings, (l to r) LeRoss and Maurice (Maury) Jones and they passed it on to Lamar's son, Lorin.

bishops as well.

Emma, Corilla, and LeRoss served in the Central States Mission. After LeRoss's first wife passed away, he served with his second wife, Mabel, in Pennsylvania and then Mexico. Edwin was in the Army Air Corps during WWII, but later was a stake missionary and he and his wife served fulltime missions to Ghana, Panama and the Dominican Republic. Melvin served in the military in Okinawa, followed by a Southern States mission. Maury, because he had been in the Navy for a year, was called to the Canadian Mission at 18, although missionary age was then 21. Later he served as stake mission president.

Lamar was called to the British Mission in the early 1950s. After returning, he married Mary Lou Goodman and worked with Melvin, at Mel Jones Masonry until 1991, when he had a stroke. The couple had six children, and had 19 grandchildren and 18 great grandchildren when he died in 2009 at 78.

While on his mission, Lamar gave a Book of Mormon to Peter Sansome. Peter asked Yvonne Ritchie, a Swedish woman, who was living in England with her American husband, if she

"could take 'care' of the book," Yvonne later wrote. She wanted to bring it back to the United States, but, says even after moving to Tucson in 2004, "some of our things ... were just put in a bookcase."

Finally, in 2012, Yvonne called the Mesa Temple and told the secretary, Janet Anderson, "I have an old Book of Mormon ...". Sister Anderson was impressed to call Helen Schlie, a bookstore owner for many years, who has an original Book of Mormon herself.

Helen was thrilled. She had known Willard and Edna Jones and now lives in the same ward as Maury and LeRoss.

She delivered the book to the brothers. They, in turn, passed it to Lamar's son, Lorin, of the Sossaman Ward, Boulder Creek Stake.

"It's amazing that it got back to me," Lorin says. "I don't cry easily, but as soon as I opened it and saw my dad's handwriting, tears came to my eyes. I don't have anything of my dad's from when he was younger. I am honored to have this now."



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media community.

“We felt like it was important to keep uplifting materials and reminders coming to the girls years after the conference ended,” Sister Jorgensen says.

At mytimetoblossom.com, blog posts are written by the 10 Blossom Girls, “who have expertise in different areas,” Sister Jorgensen says.

They cover topics about beauty, fashion, spirituality, health, success, lifestyle and relationships as well as articles about “being your best.” The posts are also shared on Instagram @mytimetoblossom (where they have almost 10,000 followers), on Facebook/mytimetoblossom and Pinterest @mytimetoblossom.

The summer’s Time to Blossom conference, on Monday, June 15, through Friday, June 19, offers two attendance options. For the traditional overnight option, girls stay at the Hyatt Place in Mesa, then are transported to East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) for the conference events. For the day-only option, girls attend the events at EVIT from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. then return to their own homes at night. For details or to register, visit www.timetoblossom.com

To volunteer or to make a donation to help reach even more girls through Time to Blossom (a 501c3 organization), contact carla@timetoblossom.com.

Young Single Adult Fireside Continued from pg. 10

keeping covenants but also the role that plays in acquiring happiness. You could tell they knew the audience they were addressing and it [also] was great to hear from someone your own age going through the struggles of being a YSA right now.”

Elder Wright shared hope and encouragement with those attending when he closed his talk and summed up the evening, saying, “May we be ready for what the Lord has in store for us.”

Personal experience prompts author to write for Returning Missionaries

By Valerie Ipson
The Beehive

A few years ago, Brock Booher joined the celebration at the house of a friend whose son was returning from an LDS mission in Peru. While it was heartwarming to see the young man reunited with his family, the occasion also sparked a nerve. Brother Booher couldn’t help remembering how lost he felt when he returned from his own mission over 30 years prior.

He says, even today, “I can still remember that empty feeling I felt when I walked off the airplane after my mission.”

So, with prodding from his wife, Britt, and others, he wrote a book for returning missionaries titled, *Return and Continue with Honor: A Guide for Returning Missionaries*.

The book offers practical advice that can be applied in the first week, the first month, the first year and beyond, after a return home from missionary service. It’s also a call to action to help the young man or woman continue to set goals and stay “anxiously engaged.”

Brother Booher says his intent in writing the book was to help elders and sisters be as prepared for returning as they were for leaving to serve in the first place.

“I hope that this book will make it easier for all the wonderful young men and women coming home to deal with the transition from fulltime missionary to faithful returned missionary,” he says.

The book states its purposes, which include helping the

individual to:

- Transition back into everyday life without losing spirituality
- Capture the lessons learned from missionary experience
- Set new goals
- Rebuild important relationships
- Manage priorities and expectations
- Strive to continue the learning process

Return and Continue with Honor also contains advice for parents of returned missionaries, who often don’t know what to do with an adult child that seems lost without a companion and a rigorous work schedule. To such parents, Brother Booher’s book suggests: Provide them with a home environment conducive to the Spirit. Returned missionaries have spent years avoiding anything that might distract them from the work. ... They will feel awkward at home when the TV is on or when music is playing...perhaps you might

examine your daily activities...

The book contains advice



Design by Shawnda T. Craig

The new book, *Return and Continue with Honor: A Guide for Returning Missionaries*, offers practical advice for staying “anxiously engaged” and to otherwise help young men and women returning from missions.



Photo by Robert Olmstead Photography

Based on his own experiences and feelings after returning from an LDS mission, Brock Booher wrote a book to help others manage the transition.

for leaders as well, who can use it in guiding and nurturing returned missionaries.

Brother Booher, a member of the San Tan 1st Ward, Gilbert San Tan Stake, served a fulltime mission in Uruguay and graduated from Brigham Young University. He and his wife have six children, two who have served missions and one preparing to leave soon.

Brother Boohe, who began flying in the U.S. Air Force, now flies for a major airline.

Along with his recent book, Brother Booher writes fiction and has published two novels: *Healing Stone* and *The Charity Chip*.

Find him on Facebook (Author-BrockBooher), on Twitter (@BrockBooher) or visit his website (BrockBooher.com).

Return and Continue with Honor: A Guide for Returning Missionaries is published by CFI, an imprint of Cedar Fort, Inc. It is available on amazon.com and at Deseret Bookstore.

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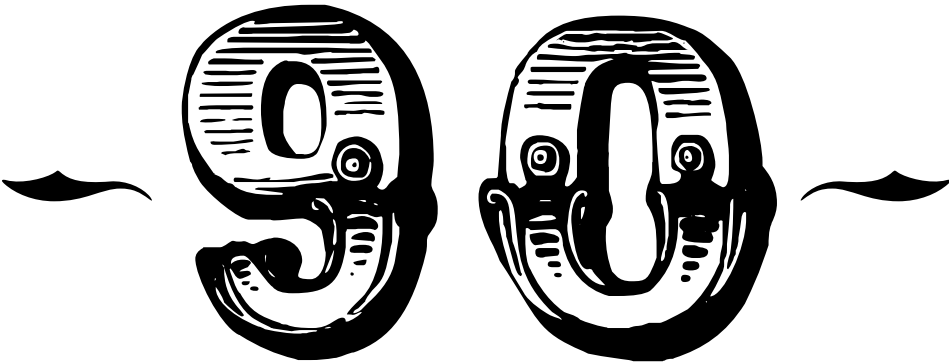
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Long-Time Mesa Resident and Educator Turns



By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

When long-time Mesa resident Wallace L. “Wally” Burgess turns 90 in May, he will celebrate surrounded by many whose lives he touched as an Arizona educator, by ward and community members he served with over the years and by family members and friends.

Brother Burgess was born in Gallup, New Mexico, on May 21, 1925.

He was attending Arizona State College and working for the City of Mesa when he was introduced to Cora Cluff, a native of Pima, Arizona.

He says, they got acquainted on their first date together, “She said to me. ‘The man I marry has to take me to

the temple.’”

“I wasn’t worthy to go to the temple at the time,” Wally continues, but what he saw in Cora on that first blind date was more than enough to make him want to change his ways.

“She was different from the girls I dated in high school. She had high morals, high standards; and she didn’t wear much lipstick. She was just a fine young lady from a small town, and we were very compatible.”

They were married in the Mesa Arizona Temple in June 1951.

Cora and Wally, of the Dana Ward, Mesa Pueblo Stake, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 2011. He



Photo by Cecily Markland

Wally Burgess, who will turn 90 in May, and is shown here with his wife, Cora, and surrounded by pictures of their children, says his family is the most important part of his life.

says they still live in wedded bliss.

“And, I love her more every day,” Wally says.

Brother Burgess started working on the railroad during the summers while attending college.

He became an avid train enthusiast,

and he continued to work on the railroad every summer during his career as an educator. “Railroading was kind of my second life,” he says. “I worked one month on the railroad for every three months teaching.” Working the first

Continued on pg. 15



Randy Kartchner

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6 years ago I was ready for a change. I loved working full-time as a music composer and producer, but the crazy hours and fast pace were taking a toll on my mental and physical health. I was 50 lbs overweight, had plantar fasciitis, and was exhausted all the time. I wanted to spend more time with my family. Some friends told me of a program that helped them reach their health goals as well as their financial goals. I gave it a try. It was a life changer. I have lost and kept off the 50 lbs, found more time for priorities and discovered financial opportunities I never thought possible. I now help others achieve their personal development goals. I would love to help anyone discover new options for physical and mental health and financial independence.

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railroad between Winslow to Seligman, he earned the nickname “Smokey” Burgess. “It was my first time manning the fire, and I caused a blackout over Seligman that lasted five hours,” he laughs.

He loved his career as an educator as well. He worked as an educator for 37 years, 15 of those as a principal or superintendent. He was the first public school administrator on an Arizona Indian reservation, serving in Sacaton for nine years. Wally taught every grade from kindergarten through college, including four years in Fontana, Calif., three and a half years at Carson Junior High and 10 years at Poston Junior High in Mesa. While teaching in Gilbert he also served as Gilbert’s first seminary teacher.

Over the years he enjoyed working with good principals and teachers and with the students. “I was always firm, but fair,” he says.

A model student himself, Wally has three master’s degrees—in General Science, Natural Science and Administration. He is an active member of the Sons of the Utah Pioneers (SUP) and served as area vice president for the state of Arizona for nine years. He also was a member of the Gilbert Town Council for one term.

Both Wally and Cora have been active in Church service as well, and

Wally gives Cora a great deal of credit for making gospel living a priority in their home.

He and Cora are the parents of seven children, six girls and a boy.

“All are married and sealed in the temple,” Wally says. Their son and six sons-in-law all served missions.

“Cora is a wonderful mother, grandma and great grandmother,” Wally says. “I love my wife very much. I love my seven children very much. I love my 26 grandchildren and almost 40 great grandchildren.”

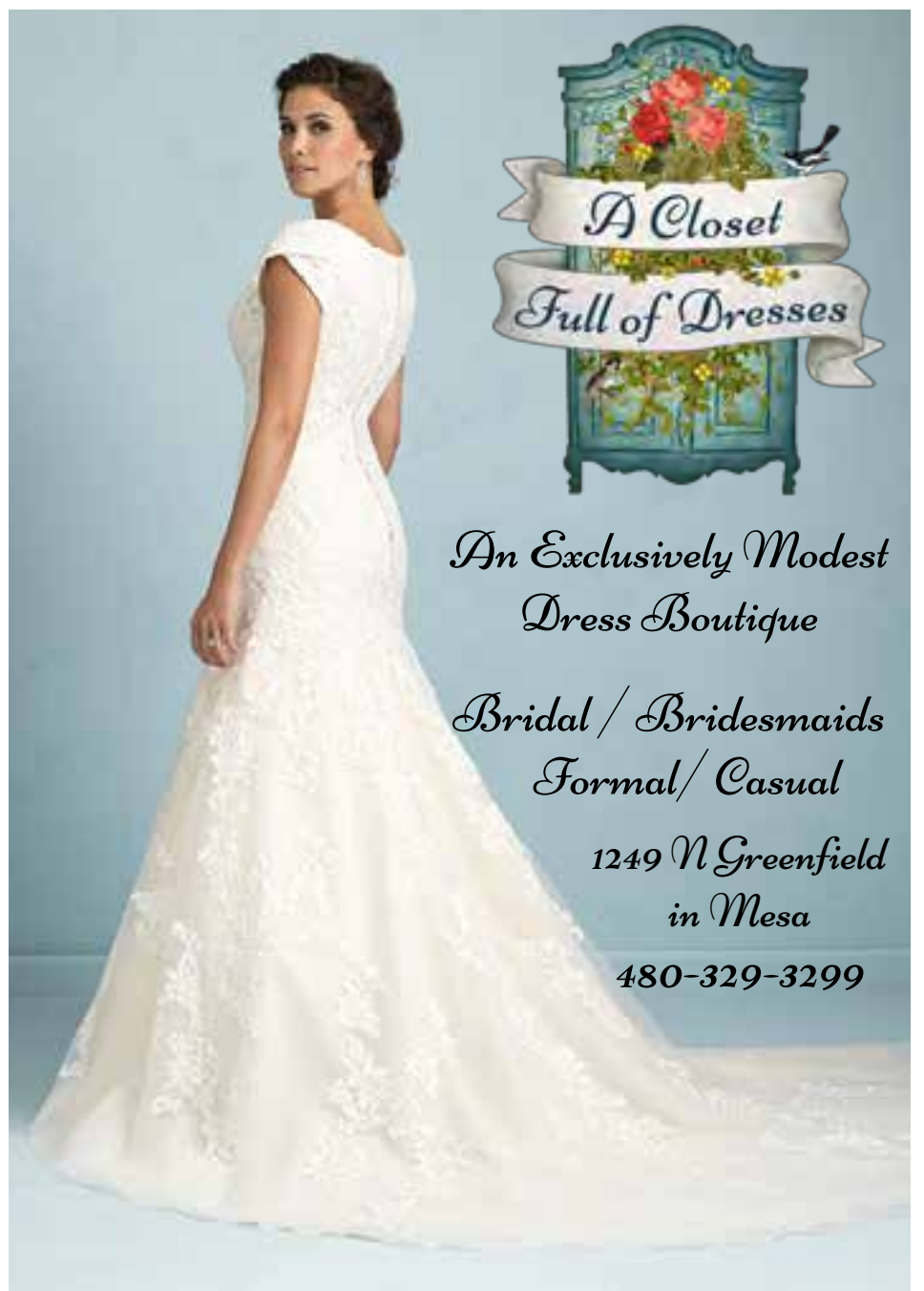
He adds, “All seven of our children live in Mesa now. We’ve been very blessed that way.”

Brother Burgess adds, “I’m happy with my life. I’m thankful to our Heavenly Father for the life I have.”

As he looks forward to his 90th birthday, Wally says his secret to a long and happy life is fairly simple.

“Live a good, clean life, keeping with what the Lord intended us to do,” Wally says. “Follow the standards and scriptures of the Church and live them.”

Family, friends, past ward members and any interested members of the community are invited to participate in the celebration of Wally’s life on May 16, 6 to 8 p.m., in the Dana Ward building, 2334 East Pueblo Avenue in Mesa.



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At the Law Offices of Yasser Sanchez, **Immigration Law** is a Labor of Love

By Emily Jex Boyle
The Beehive

In 1989, the Sanchez family immigrated from Baja California, Mexico, to the United States. As a young man, Yasser Sanchez witnessed firsthand that information and proper guidance are essential in navigating the immigration system.

Sanchez earned his law degree in 2007 from Brigham Young University's J. Reuben Clark School of Law. At BYU, he served as president of the Student Bar Association and president of the Latino Law Student Association as well.

"As an immigrant, I saw the need for qualified legal professionals to guide people through the complicated immigration system," Sanchez says.

After attending a legal clinic at BYU he knew he wanted to pursue immigration law. Now, an American Bar Association member, focusing on International Law, he serves clients across the United States.

"I knew it was my calling," San-

chez says. "America gave me a home. I came here and found the Restored Gospel of Jesus Christ and have received countless blessings. I want to help others to start their American Dream."

His passion is to serve his clients with compassion, respect and deserved attention.

After working for another immigration law firm for nearly five years, Sanchez opened his own firm, the Law Office of Yasser F. Sanchez aka Sanchez Immigration Law in 2010. Today, the firm has two attorneys, Sanchez and Randall Rowberry, both who are members of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. The firm is 100 percent bilingual.

This year, Attorney at Law Magazine recognized Sanchez as an "Attorney to Watch in Immigration Law," and Ranking Arizona recognized their firm among the Top 10 out of 275 immigration law firms. Prensa Hispana newspaper featured the firm as an Exceptional

Choice for Immigration Law and they have been the recipient of Avvo Clients' Choice Award for Immigration since 2013.

Sanchez says, a "very complex, ever-changing immigration system" makes federal immigration law challenging. The firm's clients differ greatly in socioeconomic and educational backgrounds, ranging "from professional baseball players and nuclear scientists to international models and landscapers.

"I have to apply statutes, codes, laws and immigration memos to a set of very diverse cases to help my clients reach their goals of living and working legally in this great nation," he says.

"There is nothing like looking into someone's eyes that has never been able to attain legal status and saying, 'I can help you become an American.' As an immigration attorney, the task is uniting families that have been separated by borders, oceans and paper-



Photo by Amanda Sheperd

Through his firm, Law Office of Yasser F. Sanchez aka Sanchez Immigration Law, Yasser Sanchez relies on his own experience to provide compassion, respect and deserved attention along with the important information and immigration assistance his clients need.

work. I see immigration law as a labor of love," Sanchez says. "It is rewarding to see families united on a daily basis. Every form our firm fills out is a life that can be changed."

Sanchez Immigration Law is located at 110 S. Mesa Dr., #2, in Mesa. To learn more visit, www.sanchezimmigration.com or call 480-528-7959.

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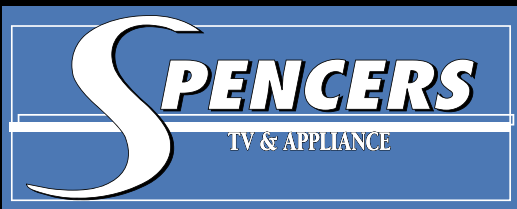
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Kimball East Stake Celebrates 25th Anniversary with “Shindig 25”

By Kathi Ogden
The Beehive

The Mesa Arizona Kimball East Stake recently marked its 25th anniversary, with current and past stake members and their friends coming together for a celebration called “Shindig 25.”

In early 1990, due to rapidly increasing membership growth and new construction in the area, the Mesa Arizona Kimball East Stake was created from the Mesa Arizona Kimball Stake at a stake conference presided over by Elder L. Tom Perry. The new Kimball East Stake consisted of six wards: Edgewood, Fairfield, Sunland, Sunny Mesa, Taylor Park and Windsor. Wayne Crismon was called as the first stake president, with Vern Allred and Paul Ellsworth as his counselors. Delbert Nelson, a member of the Kimball Stake high council at the time, was asked to

continue his service on the high council of the Kimball East Stake.

The stake has witnessed a number of changes over the course of its 25 years. Several wards have been split and five new wards created. In June 1998, after 17 years in existence, the Sunland Ward was dissolved, while Holmes Park and Aspen wards were created. Later, at a conference with Elder David Sorenson, of the Presidency of the Seventy presiding, the Taylor Park Ward was moved into the Kimball Stake.

Holmes Park and Fairfield wards were both eventually dissolved. Then, in May 2005, after identifying the needs of the growing population of Spanish-speaking members in that area, the Tierra Rica Spanish Branch was formed.

Today, there are nine wards and one Spanish-speaking branch in the Kimball East Stake.

In 1999, Bishop Richard Raymond was called as the stake’s second president. Then, in 2004, President Raymond and his wife, Nancy, were called to the California Los Angeles Mission, where he served as mission president. At that time, Mark Bradshaw became stake president and he was followed by Bishop Lynn Westergard, who was called early 2013 and continues in that calling today.

“This stake is known for its spirit of cooperation and getting things done,” says Vern Allred, former first coun-

selor in the stake presidency.

Stake members demonstrated that cooperation as they planned and ex-

At “Shindig 25” members and former members of the Mesa Arizona Kimball East Stake celebrated the stake’s 25th anniversary with games, food and entertainment as well as with interactive “memory walk” displays, like the one above, that were set up in the Relief Society, Young Women’s and Primary rooms.



Photo by Jill Adair

Continued on pg. 23

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Nicolas Ellsworth
Patterson Ward
Florida, Tallahassee



Brigit Farnsworth
Oliver Ward
Argentina, Resistencia



Hunter Jensen
Galveston 3rd Ward
Australia, Melbourne



Amanda Kerr
Northridge Ward
England, London
Hyde Park Chapel Visitors Center



Lawrence Lott
Mesa Vista Ward
Argentina, Mendoza



Kendall Noble
Solomon Ward
Mexico, Xalapa



Rudy Palencia
Liahona Ward
California, Long Beach (Spanish)



Shantel Shaver
Lyn Rae Ward
South Korea



Rance Stradling
Solomon Ward
Ukraine, Kiev



Timothy Walker
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Chile, Concepcion



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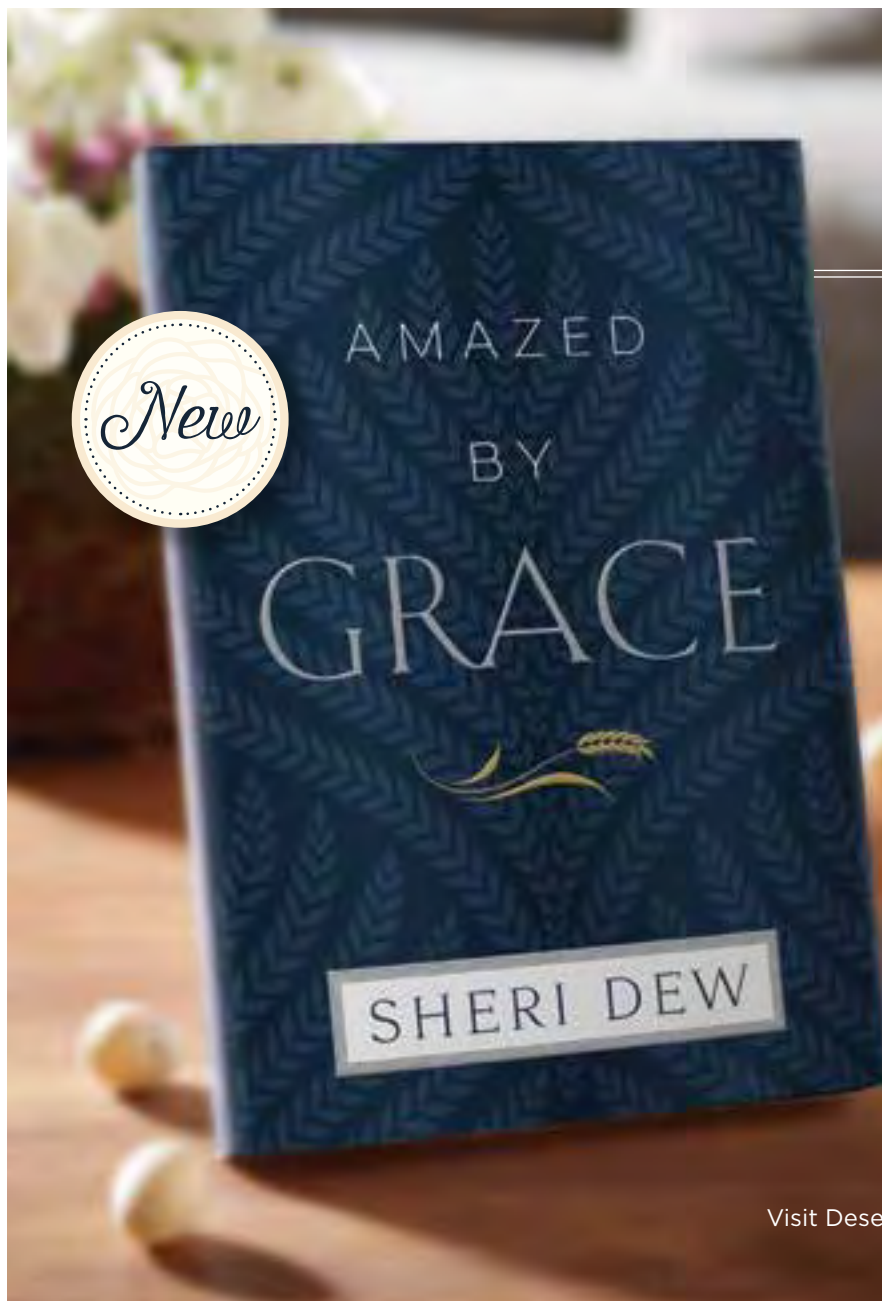
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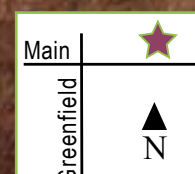

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Photo by Robin Finlinson

The Galveston 3rd Ward, of the Chandler West Stake, has developed a new "culture" of indexing and, as they work toward their goal of indexing or arbitrating 450,000 names this year, many ward members have joined in, including (standing, from l to r) Steve Graw, Terry Lambson, Sheri Allen, Don Cenatiempo, Cathi Lambson, Sharon Lynn, Karen Payne, Ed Payne and (sitting from l to r) Chris Braddock and Stepheny Burchfield.

Ward Works "Like Honeybees" to Achieve Indexing Success

By Robin Finlinson
The Beehive

The vital work of "indexing"—taking information from scanned documents, including ships' passenger lists, obituaries and country records, and putting it into searchable electronic form in the Family Search database—makes it possible for family historians to easily access details and for temple ordinances to be performed.

Church wide, members are indexing 10 million to 15 million names per month, a yearly average of 5,000 to 6,000 for each ward and branch.

The Galveston 3rd Ward of the Chandler Arizona West Stake is particularly enthusiastic about this work. In 2013, ward members indexed or arbitrated over 250,000 names. In 2014, the number grew to over 400,000.

This year, their goal is to have at least 100 ward members participating regularly and to complete 450,000 names.

"It really has to do with the Spirit of Elijah in the ward," says Bishop Phil Lewis, adding, "There's a culture now that's been created."

Encouragement comes from the pulpit and Ward Council meetings. Friendly challenges help too.

Sharon Lynn and Janet Burchfield, both admittedly hooked on the activity, attempt to keep up with and surpass Karen Payne.

It's not about numbers for her, "I just love to do it, and I type fast," Karen says. She enjoys the TV show

Continued on pg. 24

Kimball East Stake Shindig 25 Continued from pg. 19

ecuted "Shindig 25," which was held on March 7.

The event featured a BBQ dinner, games and activities for all ages, including an "open call" Pinewood Derby. Inside, pictures of past and present ward presidencies and various activities presented an interactive "memory walk." A display in the north foyer honored the law enforcement officers, firefighters and military veterans who lived within the stake during its 25-year

history. Special musical performances showcased the talents of various stake members.

Debbie MacKinlay, former stake Relief Society president, says, "Shindig 25 was an absolutely amazing experience. The whole stake came in throngs, and each of us experienced something very, very special. I truly loved our stake already, and I love it even more after our 25th anniversary celebration."

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Date Announced for Fifth Annual Town of Gilbert Patriotic Program

By Cindy Williams
The Beehive

The Town of Gilbert will host its fifth annual Patriotic Program Sunday, June 28. This hour-long program is free for the entire family.

As in years past, the program will feature a guest speaker selected from among the Arizona political leaders, along with local musical performers.

The group Full Octave will make its 3rd return appearance, again singing various patriotic songs. Country singer, Barney Carl, with his audience-pleasing guitar playing, is also returning for the third time and will

perform with his daughter, Tamara.

Jeffrey L. Williams, event director, says, “The Gilbert Patriotic Program is a great way for families to celebrate the birth of our nation through music. In the past, there have been many town and state dignitaries and their families attend, along with hundreds of Gilbert families. It makes the heart swell to celebrate our great nation.”

For more information about this free event, check the Town of Gilbert’s webpage at www.gilbertaz.gov.

Indexing Success Continued from pg. 23

“Who Do You Think You Are?” which often displays documents similar to those she indexes an hour or two each day. It’s also where she heard singer Tim McGraw’s ancestors came to America in the company of Elvis’s; and she and her husband, Ed, also an avid indexer, learned his great-great-great grandfather helped teach the Restored Gospel to Brigham Young and Heber C. Kimball.

Sister Burchfield occasionally downloads batches to her laptop so she can work offline if need be.

“Yesterday, I did only two batches, but may have helped five families find their ancestors,” she says. “That’s the exciting part.”

She keeps a notebook with a daily running total and interesting stories and facts she happens upon. Some are heart-wrenching; others are fun. She obviously didn’t index the obituary of Lucki, an old elephant that died at the San Diego Zoo, but she chuckled when the document appeared on her screen.

One of the ward’s 13 family history consultants is 15-year-old Chris Braddock, who believes in the blessings promised to those who engage in family history. He challenged the other youth to index at least once a month for a year. Over a dozen of them will soon enjoy a barbecue at the bishop’s house as a reward for doing so.

Stephany Burchfield, 16, another family history consultant, suggests indexing as a way to get community hours for progress awards and school clubs.

Sheri Allen loves the skills her

children learn and her family’s “Look what I just found!” moments. She often googles names to see what else can be discovered about the people and attaches that information to the database.

High Priest group leader Steve Graw says when reading courtroom transcripts from the Oklahoma Land Grant Project in the late 1800s, he felt as though he was there listening to the dramatic testimonies of Native Americans.

In addition to the many devoted indexers among ward members, stake leaders are dedicated to this work as well.

Stake president Kent Johansen usually does at least a few batches per week.

He says, “It would be nice if everyone would catch the vision and contribute a little bit each week consistently—like the honeybees. Then everyone would get the blessings.”

Assistant stake indexing director and ward member, Cathi Lambson, and her indexing star husband, Terry, drew and painted a beehive poster to visually track the ward’s progress. Each wooden bee pinned to the poster represents 2,000 names indexed or arbitrated.

The Galveston 3rd Ward understands that each of those names is of great worth, each represents a child of God.

To start indexing, check with your ward family history consultant or simply go to familysearch.org, find the indexing icon, and follow the directions there.



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Actress from Mesa
Appears in T.C. Christensen's
Soon-to-be Released

"The Cokeville Miracle"

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

On May 9, 1986, David and Doris Young walked into an elementary school in the small ranching town of Cokeville, Wyoming. With them, they had guns and a bomb.

While Doris used the promise of a treat to lure the 154 students and teachers into one classroom, David readied the homemade bomb for detonation.

What happened from there left the



Photo courtesy of Nanci Wudel

On the set of "The Cokeville Miracle," Kamron Wixom, (front) a survivor of the hostage situation that occurred in 1986 when he was in the 6th grade, visits with Nanci Wudel (back, center) of Mesa, and the others who played the teachers in the film.

entire community reeling—many struggling with massive misgivings, but al-

most all marveling at what they could only quantify as divine intervention.

Now, three decades later, cinematographer and director T. C. Christensen —known for "Ephraim's Rescue," "17 Miracles," "Forever Strong" and more—brings the true story of "The Cokeville Miracle" to the big screen.

One of the six teachers is played by Nanci Wudel, of the Mesa 30th Ward, Mesa East Stake.

Nanci graduated in journalism with a theater arts minor from Brigham Young University. She was the Director of Etiquette and Personal Development at the Provo Missionary Training Center and serves as a public relations and etiquette consultant for businesses and universities.

The Mesa Easter Pageant director for nine years, Nanci also directed The Finalists Show for NBC's America's Got Talent and judges state competitions for the Miss America Pageant. She has a keen eye for how individuals represent themselves, and, particularly, how things look on stage and on camera.

"I honestly don't think T. C. has the capability to produce anything that isn't powerful and moving and inspirational. He's so talented and such an amazing man," Nanci says. "After working with him on 'The Cokeville Miracle,' T. C. is my new filmmaking hero."

She was particularly impressed with the care and concern he had for the survivors and the residents of Cokeville. Early in the process, Christensen read the initial script at a Cokeville Town Council meeting. "A lot said 'no,' they didn't like the first script. It was still too tender, still too hurtful for them," Nanci says.

"This film is not 'based on' or 'inspired by' a true story, it is the true story, and T. C. wanted it to reflect the



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facts as well as the true feelings people had," Nanci says.

Not only did he revise the script, he invited any of the survivors to be on the set at any time during the filming and he used many of their children as extras.

Many took advantage of the opportunity to observe. Not only did Nanci get to meet the teacher she plays in the film, she talked with many others who visited the set.

"They said, 'watching this portrayed has given us closure' and many of them told us 'thank you' for the way it was portrayed."

There was a special feeling among the cast and crew as well, Nanci says.

"Behind the scenes there was not one negative experience at all. There was nothing but love, kindness and appreciation."

Nanci acted through the Ford Agen-

cy for over 20 years, but left because she wanted to do faith-based films only and now focuses on scriptwriting, directing and producing. She enjoyed the idea of acting again if only "for the fun and challenge," but, as it turned out, it was much more.

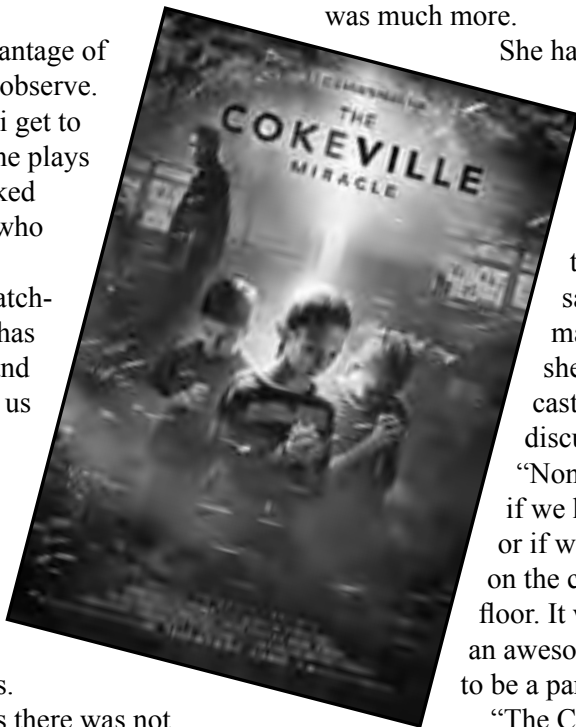
She hadn't seen the final cut,

so "I don't know how much of me is still in there," but

says it doesn't matter. In fact, she and other cast members had discussed that.

"None of us cared if we had close ups or if we were left on the cutting room floor. It was just such an awesome experience to be a part of."

"The Cokeville Miracle" opens in Arizona and across the nation June 5. For more, visit www.facebook.com/CokevilleTheMovie on Facebook.



"Childless Mormons" Support Each Other in Facebook Group

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Christina Garcia, a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints from Arizona, says she is happy to have found a group on Facebook of others who share her experience of being a "childless Mormon."

According to explanation at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/childlessmormons>, the page "has been set up by members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day-Saints who, through various reasons, are living life without children."

"We started out as a small group of women and have grown to a group of friends who all support each other. We have all had different experiences. We reach out from different countries and cover a wide range of ages, situations, and acceptance."

Christina she appreciates the re-

sources on the page and encourages others who are childless to see what it has to offer.

"We have come together to support each other through this earthly trial. We know there are thousands of women struggling that just don't know where to turn. We know Heavenly Father has other plans for all of us and we want people to know that it's okay," Christina says.

The site invites visitors: "Please make yourself feel welcome – read our blog posts, use our resources, and feel free to join with us. We know what it feels like to know you won't have children in this life, to hear those words, but we also know how to find acceptance and even joy in that circumstance."

Visit [facebook.com/groups/childlessmormons](https://www.facebook.com/groups/childlessmormons) or email Christina directly at: azldsgal@msn.com.



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Mesa Authors Share Testimony & Truths in 500 Little-Known Facts about Joseph Smith

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

It may well be one of the most intensely researched works about the Prophet Joseph Smith ever to be produced, providing such details as “how many divine beings the Prophet saw in his lifetime,” “what Joseph wrote as the last entry in his diary,” as well as information about places he lived and descriptions of the prophet’s physical appearance and personality traits.

500 Little-Known Facts about Joseph Smith, by authors Wayne J Lewis, Jana Cox and Lee Nelson (Cedar Fort, \$17.99) is a result of years of research and combing through more than 500 books about the Prophet Joseph Smith, followed by many hours of editing, organizing and fact checking.

While many of the facts and quotes are, indeed, “little-known,” Wayne says his intent was not to merely share

trivia.

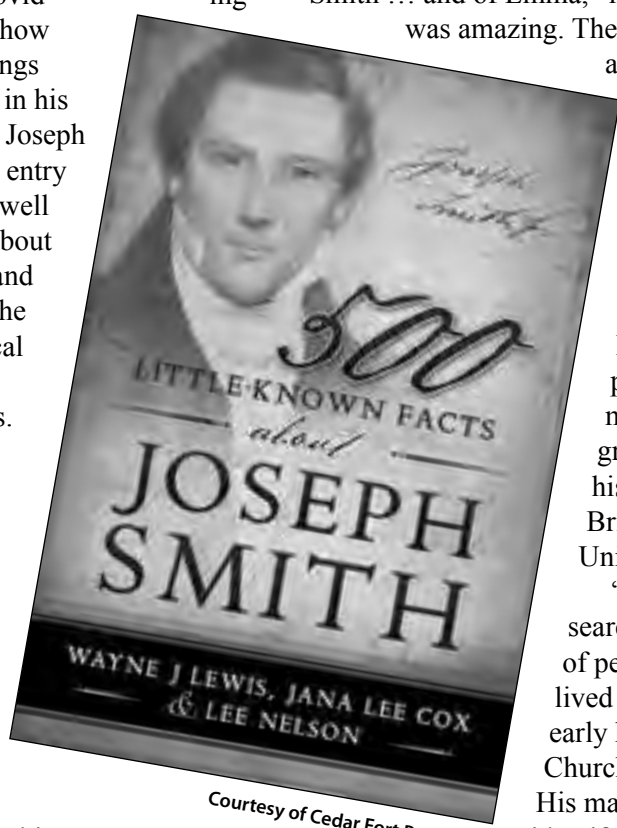
“I have wanted to increase understanding and testimony of Joseph Smith ... and of Emma,” he adds. “She was amazing. They both were amazing.”

The book actually began in 1975, when Wayne, a native of Mesa, was pursuing a master’s degree in Church history from Brigham Young University.

“I started researching names of people who lived during the early history of the Church,” he says. His master’s thesis identifies 6,700 names of Latter-day

Saints who lived in Missouri during the 1830s.

His work toward a doctorate was temporarily shelved when Wayne suffered a heart attack, but he says, “I started working on the book again in



Courtesy of Cedar Fort Publishing



Photo by Cecily Markland

The recently released book *500 Little-Known Facts about Joseph Smith* is an insightful and inspiring compilation by Jana Cox (l) and Wayne Lewis, both of Mesa, with contributions from Lee Nelson (not shown).

earnest in 1980.”

Over the years, Wayne taught seminary in Mesa and Snowflake and classes in BYU’s college of Religion Education. Working in the Church’s Presiding Bishopric Office for 20 years, he was assigned to LDS Philanthropies and assisted in funding various projects for the Church and BYU. He and his wife, Maren, have 12 children and he served as a bishop and in various other callings, including as a patriarch.

Always, “I kept working on collecting statements and compiling what was said about Joseph in the 520 books I have collected about him over about 45 years,” Wayne says.

In 2009, he published a complete bibliography of the Prophet Joseph Smith. In 2010, he printed a second edition, titled *Joseph Smith Bibliography, Joseph Smith A-Z Volume 1, Reference Encyclopedia*.

Jana, also from Mesa, has worked for more than 30 years in the printing industry and, with her husband, Max, runs Legend eXpress Publishing. Although she has worked on the production and editing of more than 100

books, she was particularly captivated by Wayne’s collection.

“Jana caught the spirit of what I was trying to do,” Wayne says.

“I felt it was so important,” Jana says. “It provided really valuable answers and I felt it had to be out there.”

“This project has given me such a love for the prophet Joseph Smith,” she adds.

They worked with Lee Nelson, from Cedar Fort, to complete *500 Little-Known Facts*, ultimately producing a well-organized book with a wealth of factual details, but also rich in the Prophet’s teachings, in the prophecies he received and miracles he performed.

Wayne has dedicated the book to his wife, who died in 2012, and to “the wives of all the Prophets, ancient and modern.” He shares more from his lifetime of research at www.JosephSmithAZ.com. *500 Little-Known Facts about Joseph Smith* is available at Costco, Deseret Book, Barnes and Noble and on Amazon.com.

New Children's Book Released

by LDS Writer, Bunny Miner

By Cindy R Williams
The Beehive

After what she says was a long, somewhat arduous process, Arizona author Bunny Miner recently released her first book, *TEN Little Nephite Missionaries*.

A mother of four children, Bunny says the idea for the book came in 2000 when she was teaching nursery.

"I realized there weren't a lot of books for this age group that referred kids to the scriptures. After many revisions and changes, and a lot of years, *TEN Little Nephite Missionaries* was born."

Sister Miner says, "*TEN Little Nephite Missionaries* is part rhyme, part early math and part service."

Together, the elements make for a fun, engaging story of 10 young people, who go off in search of ways to serve the Lord.

Each verse has an accompanying Family Home Evening lesson that corresponds to a story in the scriptures.

"The intent is to teach young children that they can turn to the scriptures for guidance," Sister Miner says.

The book's format, including the rhyming and progressive counting, also engages children, making reading *Ten Little Nephite Missionaries* an experience they'll want to return to again and again.

TEN Little Nephite Missionaries is illustrated by Cassy Burnell, a 22-year-old art student, who will graduate from Arizona State University this year.

Bunny says her testimony of the Book of Mormon came in play when writing the book.

"I have a special and abiding love for the Book of Mormon as it was the first book of scripture that I ever read and was pivotal in my conversion to the Church."

Bunny explains, "The book is written primarily for myself and the younger versions of my own children, basically for the age group of three to eight. I wanted the younger crowd to turn to the scriptures and learn the stories so they could grow to love the scriptures at a young age."

"Children like the rhymes and

pictures and parents love the book. I think this book gives parents

a great way to introduce children to the

scriptures

through the Family Home Evening lessons," says Sister Miner.

The author belongs to two national writers groups, American Night Writers Association (ANWA), which is the largest organization in the world of Latter-day Saint women writers, and the Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI).

She says writing *TEN Little Nephite Missionaries* was a quick journey from inspiration to first draft, but a very long journey from first draft to publication.

"The first version of the book was, frankly, horrible, but it did get the

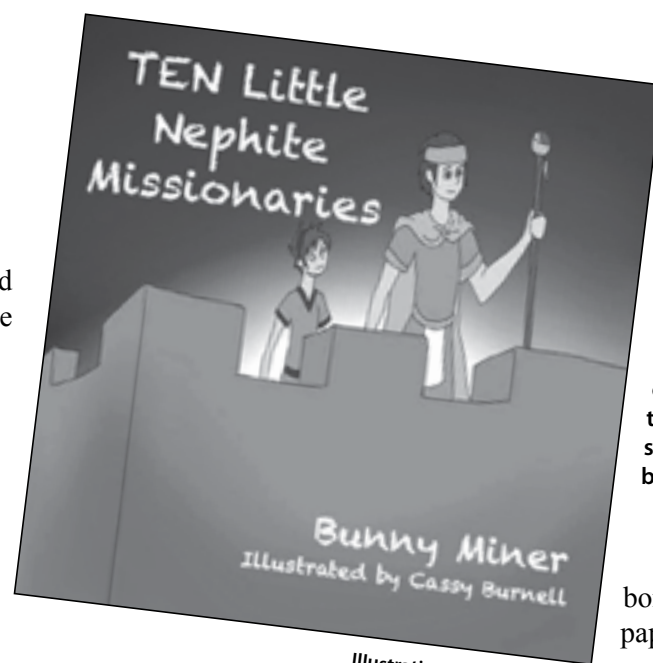


Illustration By Cassy Burnell

Author Bunny Miner recently released her first book, *TEN Little Nephite Missionaries*, a fun counting book that encourages children to get to know the scripture stories better.

bones down on paper for me to work with. An editor at Deseret

Book was helpful in letting me know in the early versions what wasn't working so I spent years reworking it," Bunny says.

"The hardest part was learning the ins and outs of independent publishing. That put the whole process back about a year alone," she says.

TEN Little Nephite Missionaries is available on Amazon and Kindle and also on the author's website at www.bunnyminer.com. To inquire about multiple books for gifts, email Bunnyminer40@gmail.com.

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Rhyme and Reason

By Linda Turley-Hansen

Pornography Preys On Our Children

It's an ugly subject, one we'd rather not deal with, but the issue has become so pervasive, it can no longer be ignored among Church members.

Porn is everywhere and its tentacles are reaching into every corner of our lives. The problem is pure evil; we don't want to give it attention, but we must. We must understand what is taking down our marriages and our children and, perhaps even, ourselves.

And, we know porn addiction afflicts many in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, enough so that some bishops ask, in their private interviews with their members, "when was the last time?" they viewed pornography, rather than "if ever?"

Members need to understand, a stop in their bishop's office is a very good starting place to find solutions. He will have resources, including Church-en-

dorsed counseling and support groups. Church materials will aid in finding the road back.

Only an adult problem? Think again. Social media is doing its dirty work. A number of reliable sources say children between the ages of 12 and 17 are said to be top consumers of porn. And, many even younger are being subjected to it.

The problem of porn addiction is so great, scientists have taken on the issue. Heavy porn use is known to damage the frontal brain lobe and diminish healthy sex drive (according to neurosurgeon Donald L. Hilton, Jr.). Those who study such things say addictions create chemical, anatomical and pathological changes, which result in impairment to that frontal lobe, where the braking system of the brain resides.

In other words, chronic porn use can damage the "stop button," which most of us rely on to control harmful behavior. If that's true, it explains the presence of porn in many horrific crimes as well as the destruction of relationships and families.

Marriage is a primary victim. In fact, one author, Natasha Hansen, who has studied the problem, says, "I

believe this is the new face of domestic violence. It's now digital domestic abuse and the bruises are invisible, but just as real."

The Ahwatukee resident and devout Latter-day Saint (in fair disclosure, also my step-daughter), has released two books for Christian readers: One, *Sexual Addiction in Marriage*, offers help to women who seek information if their husbands are addicted. Her second book is for teens: *"Only Losers Watch Porn"* (use parental discretion). Find them on Amazon.com.

It's clear, our children are primary targets. Porn will draw them into a tragic vortex. Begin by protecting them from social media access and from those who defend and use the stuff. If you have suspicions, verify. Double check. Listen hard to the Spirit. If these mental health experts are right, habitual users truly are not functioning with healthy brains and can be a danger to children: www.protectkids.com/effects/harms.

In working on various reports on this topic over the years, I've discovered few homes and extended families are immune. It's a tragic, awful scourge and needs our attention.

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IN THE MOMMY ZONE...

By Kristie Young Fairbanks

"Sampson." We call him "Sampson."

Our second eldest son is tall, strong, muscular, and full of faith. He also sports flowing curly locks of thick, auburn hair that he has grown out for several months, thus matching his nickname, giving him a sense of identity. He is stubborn in his obedience, fierce in his honesty, and unyielding in his loyalty, further comparable to his beloved Bible-hero from whence his nickname originated.

My husband dubbed our son with his fitting "Sampson" moniker after he graduated from high school and moved out of our home and into the college dorms to complete a year of school before serving his two-year church mission.

During that time of growth and transition, he matured dramatically, both physically and spiritually. He gained quite a few inches in height and added tens of pounds of bulky muscle mass to his once lean runner's physique due to his weightlifting techniques. He also decided to grow out his flowing locks of hair, at least until the requisite missionary haircut looms, hopefully, just a few months from now.

"Sampson" started completing his mission papers last semester. We made the fateful trek to visit the dentist together and learned that he would have to get four wisdom teeth extracted.

We also completed his required health check-up, where he was poked and prodded, weighed and measured.

Since then, he has successfully completed all mission interviews and his service application has been submitted. Now we wait, nervously wait, for his eagerly anticipated mission call to magically appear in our mailbox, hopefully sooner, rather than later.

Each afternoon, my heart skips a beat when I hear the mail carrier drive down our street, it's a bittersweet moment for the mother of a future missionary. I wonder to myself how I can do this all over again.

I had recently successfully navigated supporting a son in the mission field, our oldest child, just seven short months ago. He served his mission faithfully and quite productively. His mission experiences are some of his life's greatest moments and neither he, nor I, regret one day of his missionary service. But, I'm not quite ready to put my full faith and trust to the ultimate mommy test again so soon with another missionary.

Nevertheless, missionary service has been a goal of our four sons since birth. I've envisioned "Sampson's" perfect scenario for 19 years now. I'd watch him anxiously tear open his mission call and announce to the family where his life-altering mission

moments would take place over the next two years. It never mattered to me where in the world my sons would be called to serve, it just mattered that they were ready, willing, and worthy.

Any day now, this scenario will unfold in our family room yet again. I need to prepare myself once more to take on the role of missionary mom, an honorary distinction I'll gladly bear twice.

But, I'm not quite ready to bid adieu to another son for two years, not yet. He still needs a booster shot and a haircut.

I reassured my son that unlike the

Sampson of old, he'll still possess his physical strength, even after his curly locks are severed. I then reassured myself that a mother's ties to her missionary can never be severed, only strengthened.

"Sampson" will never be the same after unsealing his mission call, and neither will I. Nevertheless, we can embark upon this mission journey together, both splendidly transforming in miraculous ways. It's a blessed adventure I'm now ready to take.

So, where's that mail carrier?

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Pomeroy's Maintains its 64-yr-old Tradition of Outfitting Missionaries with Top-Quality Clothing

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

With neatly displayed luggage and backpacks, rows of suits lining the walls, racks of skirts and blouses, white shirts and ties, shoes and everything in between, Pomeroy's Men's and Missionary Store stands out as a one-stop shop with a solid reputation as the place to go for outfitting missionaries before they leave for the mission field.

Pomeroy's manager for 18 years, Doug Wimmer, says, "I love helping the missionaries who come through here, but the most fun is educating our customers and explaining what we do and why."

The "Pomeroy difference" began with founder and owner, Wayne Pomeroy, now 92, who graduated from Mesa High in 1941, served in the US Air Force in WW II and married Cecil Henri in 1944 when he was home on leave recovering from war wounds. After earning a retailing degree from Brigham Young University and a master's from New York University, Wayne opened Pomeroy's Men's Store in 1951. From the out-

set, his intent was to offer top quality men's clothing at fair prices and excellent customer service.

Now, in the same downtown Mesa location, Pomeroy's specializes in missionary clothing and has outfitted tens of thousands—both elders and sisters—who have served all over world.

Brother Pomeroy, who still works three times a week or more, says, "I've been 64 years in this same store," and his standard, of being "fair, happy and honest," remains the same as well.

He explains, "I never served an LDS mission, so this is my mission."

His youngest daughter, Michel Fluhr, has worked with her father for 38 years.

"We are now outfitting the third and fourth generations of missionaries," she says. "Families often comment how comfortable it is to come in, sit down and do all their shopping at once."

Pomeroy's staff are all returned missionaries, well familiar with the quality and features missionaries need.

For example, white shirts are read-



Photo by Sarah Fluhr Bevier

Wayne Pomeroy, with daughter, Michel Fluhr, by the statue of Wayne sculpted by Larry Passey that stands on Main Street in Mesa, near Pomeroy's Men's and Missionary Store, a one-stop shop for outfitting both elders and sister missionaries.

ily available elsewhere, "but they aren't going to look as nice or last as long as ours," Doug explains.

"We are known for our two-pant suits with added features, like stretch waistbands and reinforced crotch and pockets," Michel says. "Our easy care skirts are lined and have pockets, a feature requested by our sister missionaries. We also carry overcoats, shoulder bags and comfortable shoes, all popular items with the sisters."

Since 2006, Pomeroy's has been an active participant and only Arizona partner in an association of independent

stores operating as "CTR Clothing." Doug has helped design some of the clothing and the luggage in the CTR line.

"This group has helped increase our buying power, so we are able to continue providing 'missionary-specific' features, quality and durability while keeping costs down," Michel says.

Pomeroy's, at 136 W. Main Street in Mesa, is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. To reach them, call 480-833-0733, email pomeroysclothing@gmail.com, or visit www.pomeroysonline.com.

Outpouring of Donations and Support Helps Family with Children's Medical Expenses

When Kamarah and Frank Adams learned their fourth child would be born with Cystic Fibrosis, the same condition affecting two of their other three, Kamarah set out to raise money to help with astronomical costs of medications and medical equipment.

She created a Crowdrise page and posted their story there and on her blog. She shares the family's struggle, their story of learning about CF and their dilemma about whether to have other children as well as her testimony, which is encapsulated in the slogan she has adopted, "CF is not forever, but our family is."

"We know that CF is something the kids will have only while we are here on earth, not after we are resurrected and begin our eternal post-mortal life,"

Kamarah writes.

As friends, family and ward members heard about her fundraising efforts, many joined in with other ideas, helping to organize a Waffle Love night and a carnival-style party on April 11, complete with booths, prizes, a bake sale and dinner, with 600 meals served.

The outpouring of help and donations has been "such a huge blessing... so much bigger than we ever feel we could have asked for," Kamarah writes. "What happened for our family from the support of those around us was truly an example of Christlike love."

For more about their story or to find out how to help, visit <https://www.crowdrise.com/AdamsFamilyCF-NowNotLater/fundraiser/kamarahadams> or Kamarah's blog: <http://cfisnotforever.blogspot.com/>

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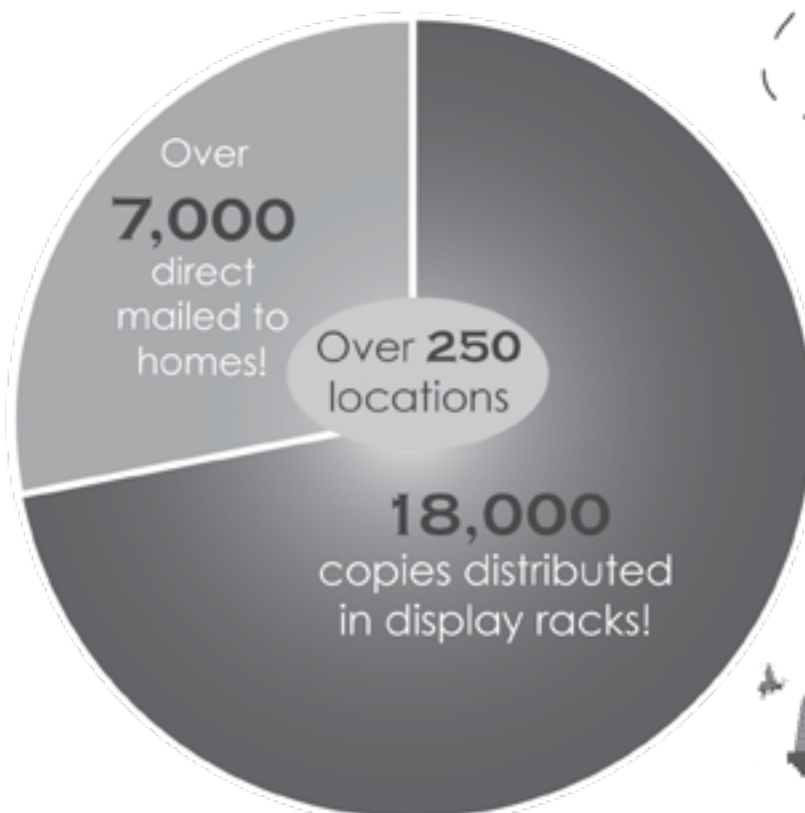
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Mesa Firm's Managing Partner Gives Tips for Finding the **Right Attorney**

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

After 27 years as the managing partner, founding member and senior litigator of Rowley Chapman & Barney Ltd., Paul S. Rowley says he is often asked, "How do I find the right attorney?"

"This really is an important question," Rowley says.

He says, "At RC&B, we have a long history of good service and fighting for our clients and always looking out for them."

RC&B also was runner up as Mesa Business of the Year in 2012 and, in 2011, "Attorney at Law" magazine recognized Rowley as Attorney of the Month.

"We know we're doing things right, and we have a good reputation, but we want every one of our clients to feel comfortable when they choose to use our services. We want the fit to be right."

He tells people, when considering an attorney:

- Google the attorney and the firm, and check the reviews.
- Arrange a face-to-face meeting to

see if you have a good rapport with that particular attorney.

- Check to see if they trained at a good school, but also find out if they have continued their legal education. "For example, at RC&B, we have the latest technology in legal research that allows us to search other cases and stay up to date with the latest issues."
- Make sure the office staff is personable and that you get the attention you deserve. "We pride ourselves in returning phone calls and in being accessible to our clients. Our clients are important and we want to take care of them," Rowley says.
- Also check to ensure fees are reasonable and that they are ethical, as well as competent.

RC&B's reputation and ability to deliver great results comes down to "strong partners," "good service" and "taking time to do it right," Rowley says.

A Mesa native and Westwood High School graduate, he graduated from Arizona State University with a busi-



Photo courtesy Paul S. Rowley

At the Mesa firm of Rowley Chapman & Barney, (l to r) Kenneth C. Barney, partner, Paul S. Rowley, managing partner, and Kevin J. Chapman, partner, lead a team of attorneys and office staff who are dedicated to providing excellent service and to getting the best results for their clients.

ness degree and finished top in his class at Southwestern University School of Law. He started his Mesa firm in 1987. Today, the full-service law firm has nine attorneys and a solid reputation for excellent legal services in a wide variety of practice areas.

Rowley currently is second counselor in the Mesa YSA West Stake presidency. He volunteers as a diver with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Divers Posse and as a pilot for Flights for Life

and the Flying Samaritans, transporting blood, platelets or even organs for transplant and flying to Baja Mexico providing medical relief.

He says the attitude of service carries over as the firm works with clients, going the extra mile to meet their needs.

To contact Rowley Chapman & Barney at 63 E. Main St., Suite 501, in Mesa, call 480-833-1113 or visit www.azlegal.com for more information and several free articles.

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Deseret Book Author's Latest Book Discusses "MEN OF COVENANT"

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

In his latest publication, released in late April by Deseret Book, author Robert L. Millet explores the power, scope and responsibilities of the priesthood.

Men of Covenant: Oaths, Covenants, and Transcendent Promises follows two other works directed to men of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. "*Men of Valor*," Brother Millet says, "explores the Lord's call to be men of strength and integrity" and *Men of Influence*, encourages men to "let your light shine, to be the salt of the earth."

"This third book I felt more passionate about," the author says. "This book is more specific. It is a serious study of the oath and covenant of the priesthood. It takes each verse, and considers not just what it means, but what it means to men in our day."

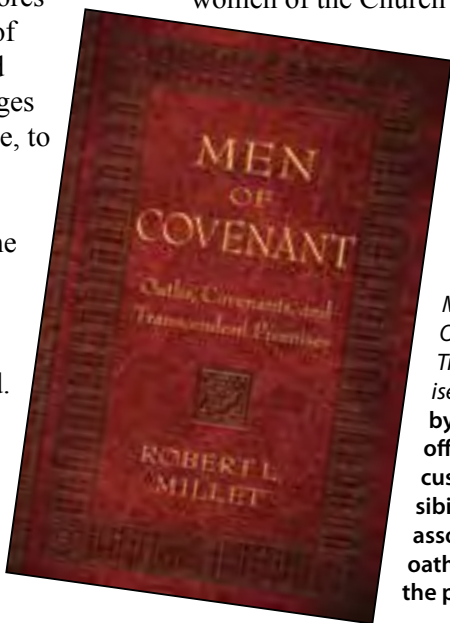
"*Men of Covenant* explains what God calls

on us to do and what he promises to do for us if we do those things," Brother Millet explains.

The description from Deseret Book says, "Each chapter of *Men of Covenant* explores a particular facet of D&C 84:33–44. While the book is written primarily to men, the lessons it teaches and the principles of covenant-keeping it elucidates are just as relevant to the women of the Church ..."

Brother Millet, coordinator of Religious Outreach and a professor emeritus of ancient

Men of Covenant: Oaths, Covenants and Transcendent Promises, recently released by Deseret Book, offers an in-depth discussion of the responsibilities and promises associated with the oath and covenant of the priesthood.



scripture and former dean of Religious Education at Brigham Young University, is author or editor of over 70 books and 175 articles and book chapters dealing mostly with the doctrine and history of the Church.

He has served in a number of callings in the Church, including as a high councilor, bishop of two wards, stake president and temple ordinance worker. He and his wife, Shauna, are the parents of six children

He says he found specific, personal application as he researched and wrote his latest book. "It caused me to do some serious introspection, and I think will encourage others to do the same and ask some hard questions in terms of, 'What am I falling short of?' and 'What am I allowing to be distractions in my life?'"

Brother Millet says, while the book discusses things to watch for and subtle temptations that may distract from one's duties, it also explores the promises that come with covenant-making and the "incomparable blessings that are available to those who magnify



Courtesy of Robert L. Millet

Robert L. Millet's is the author of the new, *Men of Covenant*, which follows *Men of Valor* and *Men of Influence* and brings his total to more than 70 published books and 175 articles.

their calling and live by every word of God."

"It's very hopeful," Brother Millet says. "There are great things ahead. We have every reason to have what Elder Maxwell calls, 'gospel gladness,' or a mixture of divine discontent and a perfect brightness of hope."

Men of Covenant: Oaths, Covenants, and Transcendent Promises is available at Deseret Book stores and online at deseretbook.com.



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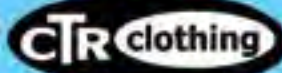
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Arizona Youth Embark in

SERVICE



Photo by Evonne Davis

Youth and leaders of the Montecito Ward in the Mountain View Stake show off their Secret Service shirts, which they were given to kick off the secret and not-so-secret service they will perform as they put into practice this year's youth theme: *"O ye that embark in the service of God ..."*